

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-14 (canceled).

Claim 15 (currently amended): A method of diagnosing lytic bone disease treatable by decreasing DKK-1 expression at the protein level in an individual with multiple myeloma, comprising:

measuring the expression level of the human homologue of Dickkopf-1 (DKK-1) protein in said individual, wherein an increased expression of said protein compared to that in a healthy individual indicates that said individual has a lytic bone disease treatable by decreasing DKK-1 expression at the protein level therein.

Claims 16-17 (canceled).

Claim 18 (previously presented): The method of claim 15, wherein said expression level is measured by enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay, immunohistochemistry or flow cytometry.

Claims 19-38 (canceled).

Claim 39 (previously presented): A method of diagnosing DKK1-associated lytic bone disease in an individual having multiple myeloma, comprising:

measuring the expression level of the human homologue of Dickkopf-1 (DKK-1) protein in said individual, wherein an increased expression of said protein compared to that in a healthy individual indicates that said individual has DKK1-associated lytic bone disease.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The method of claim 40, wherein said expression level is measured by enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay, immunohistochemistry or flow cytometry.